



Timely Progress Towards Self-Sufficiency

The Social Security Administration (SSA) sets guidelines to find out whether you are making timely progress towards self-supporting employment. SSA uses these guidelines to decide whether you are working at levels that will eliminate your dependence upon benefits.

❖ **For the initial 24 months:**

You must be actively participating in an employment plan.

This period begins the first month after you assign your ticket.

❖ **For the next 12 months:**

You must work for at least 3 of the 12 months at the level of Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA), which is \$810 a month for non-blind beneficiaries in 2004. These months do not need to be consecutive. Any work that you perform above SGA levels during your initial 24-month period can be counted towards meeting the work requirements of the first 12-month work review period.

This is the first 12-month work review period.

❖ **For the next 12 months:**

You must work for at least 6 of the 12 months at the level of SGA for non-blind beneficiaries. These months do not need to be consecutive.

This is the second 12-month work review period.

❖ **For subsequent 12 month periods:**

You must work for at least 6 of the 12 months at a level sufficient to stop the SSI or SSDI cash payment. These months do not need to be consecutive.

Months in which your ticket is not assigned to an EN or a State VR agency, will not be counted towards the initial 24-month period.

If you reassign your ticket to another agency during an extension period in the initial 24-month period, you can get a new first 24-month period.